

Minneapolis Police Department

Office of the Chief

350 South 5th Street, Room 130

Minneapolis, MN 55415



Body Camera Pilot Program 12-12-14

Purpose: Determine the best policy and equipment for the Minneapolis Police Department (MPD) for future full implementation. A YouTube video that explains the program and presents sample body camera video can be found at the following web site: <http://youtu.be/26ECVlh3TK0>

Equipment: A committee reviewed the RFP responses and selected Taser and VieVu as the two test models.

Policy: Draft MPD policy was modeled after the current MPD squad camera policy and other local and national body camera policies. National best practices were taken into consideration including the PERF body camera publication. This draft policy was publicly released and presented to a number of organizations for feedback. The draft policy can be found at the following web site: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/police/index.htm>

Current Deployment: 36 MPD officers are currently using the Taser body camera while on duty. This model will be tested for 3-4 months. The VieVu camera test will follow the Taser test period. The body cameras are distributed to three police precincts and across all patrol shifts.

Feedback and Analysis: The 36 test officers using the body cameras will provide feedback on equipment use and performance along with policy considerations. At the conclusion of both test periods, there will be an evaluation of the equipment, draft policy, data storage and operational processes.

Activation: MPD Officers are guided by the current MPD draft Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) on when to activate a body camera. Officers have the ability to activate and deactivate the camera based on specific criteria in the draft policy.

Data Retention: Video gathered by body camera will be stored, per current draft policy, for one year. Video that is of evidentiary value will be stored for six years.

Public Access: Public release of body camera video is in accordance to current state data laws. The MPD Records and Information Unit is responsible for storage and management of the body

camera data and release of the data to the public. A data request forms can be found at the following web site: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/records/>

Planning: A number of local stakeholders have been engaged in the planning and implementation process for the MPD body camera program. MPD also sought advice and reference from other organizations that have been involved with, utilized or studied body cameras.

This includes the following:

MPD Police Administration

Mayor's Office

Minneapolis City Council

Minneapolis Police Union (Federation)

MPD Crime Lab

MPD Records Unit

Minneapolis City Attorney's Office

Minneapolis Clerk's Office

MPD Patrol, Investigative and Supervisory Personnel

MPD Internal Affairs

Minneapolis Police Conduct Oversight Committee

Hennepin County Attorney's Office

Minneapolis Police Leadership and Organizational Development Division

Minnesota Chief's of Police Association and membership

Major City Police Chief's Association and membership

Police Executive Research Forum

On-going Community Meetings and Chat with the Chief Events